

To The Members of the California State Assembly:

I am returning Assembly Bill 366 without my signature.

This bill requires the Department of Social Services to operate the Child Care Substitute Employee Registry Pilot Program until January 1, 2008. It would clarify that child care workers would be registered by the Substitute Employee Registry, rather than by the individual child care facility and that all substitute employee records would be maintained at the Substitute Employee Registry's regional office. This measure would take effect immediately as an urgency statute.

This bill provides that the Substitute Employee Registries are to be funded by a combination of licensing fees charged to participating registries and the reallocation of unearned child care contract funds, pursuant to Section 8278 of the Education Code. Despite the commendable negotiations between the author and the Department of Social Services, the licensing fees are not adequate for implementation and the additional funding from Proposition 98 monies cannot be used for this purpose. The Education Code Section 8278 funds were intended for the provision of direct child care services.

For these reasons I am returning this bill without my signature.

Sincerely,

Arnold Schwarzenegger